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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2008

7-10-76
JM-B
Austria

III.

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19 Sept. 1949

SUBJECT: DR. WILHELM HOETTL IN POSSESSION OF ASSETS.

Time of the event: mid-September 1949

Passed through Res: 16 Sept. 1949

Entered at C500: 19 Sept. 1949

Note: The following report presents a continuation of "Dr. Wilhelm HOETTL's assets in Switzerland", dated 27 Aug. 1949.

Dr. Wilhelm HOETTL sent valuables and foreign currency to Switzerland shortly before the end of war through mediation of Fritz WESTL, industrialist, as mentioned in the previous report. As a result of this transaction, he claimed, WESTL still owes him some money, which the latter denied. Dr. HOETTL asked Friedrich HEISS to help him to settle the disagreement.

Friedrich HEISS, see the current report, especially "Dr. Friedrich HEISS' business activity", "Friedrich HEISS" and "Friedrich HEISS, supplementary information" dated 1 May 1949.

He brought about a conciliation between the both parties, as a result of which Fritz WESTL paid a sum of 100,000 Schillings to Dr. HOETTL. How much money was originally claimed, and whether this sum represented the full payment of the amount claimed is not known.

The State Police in Linz, in the meantime, continued the investigation, which was conducted by Polizeirat Dr. KUNHOLZ, known for his communist party leanings. The primary objective of this investigation was not so much to find out about Dr. HOETTL's assets in Switzerland, as to determine what happened to a large quantity of opium and a box containing valuables and gold, allegedly belonging to the Wehrmacht, and which, according to the State police disappeared from Bad Aussee, or vicinity, at the end of war. The State Police suspects Heestl of being in the background of the whole affair; interrogations of individuals, which are suspected of participation, have taken place. On 10 Sept., the State Police arrested Dr. van TONGEL, who attracted the police's attention because of his frequent meetings with Dr. HOETTL, in Bad Aussee (meeting place at the Post Office, at 17.45 hours). Through intervention of some unknown friends van Tongel was after 4 days released. Van Tongel has been previously arrested in connection with the same case. There is, however, not enough evidence (according to the State police) which would warrant court proceedings against van Tongel; the police thinks, that van Tongel was not actually participating in the illicit transaction of gold and opium.

FOR COORDINATION WITH *ARMY*